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THREE-PRONGED UN ASSAULT American Infantry Attacking Big Red Force East Of Seoul

COMMENT

The Russian reply to the Western Powers on a meeting of the Foreign Ministers' Council, while couched in reasonable terms, has apparently not resolved the suspicions of Russian intentions, which remain a puzzle, and the question is still being asked whether or not Russia is planning an aggressive war of conquest.

Reports in the past week have suggested the possibility that Russia is planning direct aggression against Yugoslavia. This is not likely; if direct aggression had been included in her programme, the time she could have been expected to strike was when the Democracies were weaker and Communism was much stronger in Western Europe.

While it must be acknowledged that there does exist some slight danger of Russia striking in panic, it is to be hoped that the West will somehow break through the iron curtain of suspicion and fear that divides the world.

There may be a possibility that the Soviet rulers will be prepared for some kind of armistice—if not a full settlement.

Nevertheless Britain and the other Western countries are going ahead in strengthening their defences—not to do so would be folly in a world so full of risks. But it is equally necessary for Britain to energise her diplomacy in new efforts to save peace before the burden of rearmament settles like a doom on the standards of living everywhere.

Britain would be the ideal country to initiate a move for lasting peace. She has no aggressive intent and has given too much to the world for words like "prestige" and "face-saving" to bother her.

The astute men in the Kremlin must see that they too have sound reasons for meeting us half way. At any rate it is worth while making a supreme effort to find out. Perhaps the Council of Foreign Ministers, if such a meeting eventuates from the latest Russian note, may provide the opportunity.

Communists Putting Up A Stubborn Delaying Fight

Tokyo, Feb. 8.

American infantry, backed by tanks and artillery, were tonight attacking a sizable Communist force from three sides 40 miles due east of Seoul — which itself came under Allied tank shelling this morning.

Tonight's Allied onslaught blocked an attempted Communist counter-attack, followed by a withdrawal. A frontline officer described the Communist resistance as a strong, stubborn, delaying fight.

HOPES FOR SOLUTION IN KOREA

Ottawa, Feb. 8.

A Government source indicated today that Canada placed rising hopes for peace in Asia on the United Nations' military successes in Korea and was prepared to urge the United Nations forces to halt their present advance at the 38th Parallel.

It was reported that the Government felt the automatic halt of the advance on the disputed parallel would create a "de facto cease-fire", resulting in the lowering of tension and a more favourable atmosphere for renewed attempts at negotiations.

There were indications that this attitude had partly prompted the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Lester Pearson, to decline to serve on the new United Nations Good Offices Committee. In general, sources indicated that the Government felt it would be unwise to press formally for a new cease-fire proposal at this time.

Although there have been no international discussions of the question, it was understood Canada hoped that reports that the U.S. military commanders intended to halt their advance at the 38th Parallel were true.

Mr. Pearson would not comment directly, but he told reporters he felt the United Nations should treat that problem with care if it arises. Canada would continue to oppose immediate sanctions against Red China or even consideration of them by the Collective Measures Committee until the Good Offices Committee has reported.—United Press.

Reinforcements In Germany

Frankfurt, Feb. 8.

American ground troop reinforcements have arrived in Germany and have been assigned to General Dwight Eisenhower's Atlantic Army, the United States Army announced tonight.

The Army said that the 443rd and 66th anti-aircraft battalions reached Germany within the past three days for duty with the newly reactivated United States Seventh Army. The Seventh Army commanded by Lieutenant General Manton Eddy has been pledged to General Eisenhower's force.—United Press.

One column of South Korean troops who ran into Communist resistance fell back a little as United Nations elements moved steadily forward almost unopposed on the central front.

Two American tanks got to within sight of the Communist-held South Korean capital of Seoul early today and opened up shell-fire on the southern outskirts of the city from a four-mile range.

They pulled back two miles to the main column of Task Force Dolvin, which was striking up the main road to the Korean capital from the south. It was officially indicated late tonight that the destruction of the Communist pockets south of the Han River below Seoul was a sizable victory in terms of casualties inflicted on the enemy. This destruction was the objective of the current phase of General Matthew B. Ridgway's "limited offensive" drive, the sources said, warning that no further implication should be attached to the present situation.—Reuter.

BAYONET CHARGE

Tokyo, Feb. 8.

Two American tanks today sent shells whistling into the outskirts of Seoul in a bold hit-and-run raid within four miles of the ghost city.

The tanks sped two miles ahead of the main column of Task Force Dolvin, which snaked along the mine-pocked Seoul highway in a dawn thrust from Anyang, about seven miles south of the South Korean capital.

Communist resistance to this direct thrust at Seoul and to the west was lighter today and the armoured force met only little small-arms and mortar fire.

Infantry with fixed bayonets cleared four of the low, but densely wooded, hills commanding the road north of Anyang.

They crossed ice-caked paddy fields flanking the dusty road through the chilly wind.

The gloomy day ended with a light snow flurry at dusk, when the United Nations infantry dug into their night defence positions.

Some reports suggested that the Communist resistance to General Matthew B. Ridgway's fortnight old "limited objective" drive had crumbled in the west, but pilots told of Communist concentrations on both sides of Seoul.

The reports by the United Nations air observers said that Seoul itself seemed void of life with no sign even of civilian movement in the city as the United Nations forces neared the Communist-held South Korean capital.

TWO-MILE ADVANCE

The average advance of the United Nations forces in the west today was nearly two miles.

Task Force Dolvin, which takes its name from its commander, Lieutenant Colonel Tom Dolvin, jumped off again from the rubble of Anyang.

An observer from the British Brigade watched from the red-bricked schoolhouse, backed by a rail siding.

Columns of smoke rose from the whitish brown road running straight north for about a mile when the United Nations clearing party probed cautiously ahead of a column of tanks exploding poorly concealed mines with sticks of dynamite and grenades.

The Communists fired spasmodically from the hills on either side of the road but they were soon silenced by Allied mortars and artillery, including British 25-pounder guns.

Small parties of infantry went in with bayonets and grenades to clean out stubborn pockets of enemy resistance.

South Korean troops rushed forward in trucks yesterday through long convoys of Allied equipment moving north and (Continued on Page 8 Col. 1)

Another Bormann Canard

Santiago, Chile, Feb. 8.

The alleged capture of Hitler's deputy, Martin Bormann, near Valparaiso by Chilean police and American F.B.I. agents, reported in a Santiago evening paper two weeks ago, has proved completely unfounded.

Bormann, for many years head of Hitler's party chancellery, became deputy leader of the Nazi Party after Rudolf Hess's flight to Scotland in 1941.

In October the British Foreign Under-Secretary, Mr. Ernest Davies, stated in Parliament that there was no reason to believe that Bormann was alive, in spite of reports from all over the world that he had been seen since his disappearance after the war.—Reuter.

U.S. GESTURE TO RUSSIA

Washington, Feb. 8.

Twenty-one Senators, led by a Democrat, Mr. Brien McMahon, of Connecticut, put forward a resolution today expressing American friendship for the Russian people and welcoming "all honourable efforts" to attain peace.

Mr. McMahon stated that the Communists had been allowed to "steal the word 'peace' from the free nations of the world" and were carrying on a campaign to brand Americans as "atomic barbarians".

He urged Congress to offset this by approving the resolution, which would instruct President Truman to transmit it to the Soviet Government with the request that it be broadcast to the Russian people.—Reuter.

Wartime Emergency Powers In Britain To Be Revived

London, Feb. 8.

Powers given to the British Government during the war are to be made law for the nation's new rearmament drive, it was revealed today.

Parliament will be asked to approve a new Bill permitting certain wartime controls and restrictions.

They will be used, the Government says, to cover the provision of supplies and services needed in the defence "of any part of His Majesty's Dominions, or any territory under His Majesty's protection," or "for the maintenance or restoration of peace and security in any part of the world, or for any measures arising out of a breach or apprehended breach of peace in any part of the world."

Wide powers were given to the Government during the war, including the right to detain "subversive elements" and authority to direct labour from "luxury" jobs to vital industries.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, told Parliament

last month that controls on the distribution of materials and the allocation of manpower might be necessary for the nation's £4,700 million arms drive. The new Bill will ensure that the Government's right to use these powers in peace time cannot be questioned.

It will be legal for the Government to close roads near defence plants where this is necessary and to prevent vital supplies being sold "in a manner prejudicial to defence."

But it is expressly stated that there will be no right to suppress any newspaper, periodical, book or other publication, though this power existed in the last war.—Reuter.



This collection of fashion and beauty alighted at New York's International Airport. Taken to America by Prestige, Inc., the six leading fashion models in Paris will embark upon a whirlwind tour of the U.S., representing the best-known couturiers of their own country.

Gas Explosion Kills 9

St Paul, Minnesota, Feb. 8.

A butane gas explosion ripped apart a section of the sprawling Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company today, killing at least nine persons and injuring at least 38. —United Press.

United States Troops For Western Europe

Washington, Feb. 8.

Republican Senator Alexander Smith urged today that a "reasonable ratio" of United States troops should be sent to Western Europe but without a Congressional limit on the number.

The Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees are now jointly considering a resolution to bar the dispatch of any American ground troops to Western Europe under the North Atlantic Treaty until Congress determined the policy. It was introduced by the Senate Republican leader, Mr. Kenneth Wherry. —Reuter.

Washington Takes Drastic Action Against Strikers

Washington, Feb. 8.

The United States Army served notices on striking railwaymen today that they would be dismissed unless they reported for work by 4.00 p.m. local time on Saturday—or could prove that they were physically unable to work.

Two hours earlier President Truman had ordered the Army Secretary to take "appropriate action" immediately in the nine-day old strike of shunters.

Questioned after his statement, the President referred to the background for the "sick call" walkout of shunters. He said that an agreement had been signed and the management did not run out on it.

President Truman told his weekly Press conference that essential military transport and the national emergency made it necessary for his action.

He reminded the conference that the railways are at present operated by the Secretary of the Army.

The latest report on the strike

was that while the negotiations between the employers and the employees are still deadlocked, the strike has been easing because of the "back-to-work" movement after appeals by national leaders.

President Truman read a statement which said: "I have been gravely concerned about the interference with essential military and civilian railroad transportation. It is sad enough in other times: it is intolerable in an emergency."

Though more striking shunters returned to work throughout the United States today, in Chicago four-fifths were still out and the stoppage continued to paralyse 99 per cent of the freight movement.

There was no indication of a settlement in the long-standing wage-hours dispute between the four railroad unions and the shunters. The National (Railway) Mediation Board was trying to negotiate a settlement in Washington. —Reuter.

United Press adds that the Army announced that yardmen and yard masters will be given a wage increase of 12.5 cents per hour, road service employees an increase of five cents per hour retroactive to Oct. 1, pending settlement of their dispute with the management.

Helen Keller Going To South Africa

New York, Feb. 8.

Helen Keller, 70, will leave next week for her first visit to the Union of South Africa and Northern and Southern Rhodesia.

The noted blind and deaf educator will sail on the Queen Elizabeth and spend about a week in the United Kingdom before going to Africa.

She told newsmen she hoped to address meetings and inspect schools and institutions for both deaf and blind. —United Press.

SENATOR TAFT RETURNS TO THE FRAY

Washington, Feb. 8.

Senator Robert Taft demanded today that Congress and not President Truman determine how many American troops should be assigned to the unified North Atlantic pact army.

Senator Taft told the Senate that President Truman apparently claims authority to send troops anywhere he wishes. He added: "This is a straight demand for a simple dictatorship and a claim of power which no president has ever had in time of peace."

Mr Taft suggested that Congress limit American troop contributions to Europe to no more than one division to every nine foreign divisions—five American divisions in the projected 50-division army. He also tentatively advanced the proposal that Congress limit to not more than 20 percent the total of the United States land army the troops which could be stationed in Europe in peace time, and not more than ten percent of the United States Air Force.

Senator Taft made these points:

1. General Dwight Eisenhower told Congressional committees that even he was uncertain if any troop commitment was made at the recent Brussels conference and that Congress had been unable to obtain any reliable information.

2. General Eisenhower's own status is beclouded, but apparently he is an appointee of the Atlantic Pact Powers and answerable to the international organization rather than to President Truman or the United States high command. The President cannot delegate his own command functions to foreign governments.

3. The Administration will claim that to reveal details would be to disclose "top secret" information to the enemy but within one week every newspaper columnist in the United States will know the troop figures.

CONTRACT NEEDED

4. It seems clear that even the President's power to carry out the Atlantic Pact's mutual defence commitment rests upon a declaration of war by Congress because such action would "involve us in war."

5. Any yielding to the President on the power to involve the nation in war would "arouse the undying opposition of every man who believes in the maintenance in this country of a government by the people."

6. A binding contract should be drawn governing what the Allied powers individually will contribute in troops and this could be lawful only if approved by Congress. He said, "If the President undertakes to make promises which he has no right to make, I feel no obligation to support those promises."

7. Senator Paul Douglas (Democrat, Illinois) and others somewhat exaggerate the danger of unsuccessful war in Europe but the United States is vitally concerned in the continued freedom of the Pact countries.

8. Unless the Europeans are willing to do 50 per cent of the defence jobs, no integrated army can succeed. United States sea and air support plus five divisions, would make this country do half the job and that figure would rise to 80 percent if this country provided half the land army.

HAZY PROGRAMME

9. The whole defence programme is very hazy and it would take at least 75 divisions to hold Denmark and the British and American Zones in Western Germany. It is useless to talk about defending an Elbe River line.

Senator Taft suggested that the Pact powers consider a definite notification to Russia that an attack by a Soviet satellite in Europe would be regarded as an attack by Russia itself. He also said the Pact powers should adopt a policy regarding reaction to any attack on Yugoslavia, so

that "snap judgment is not taken at some midnight conference".

Senator Taft reiterated previous statements that efforts to form a huge land army in Europe might bankrupt the United States and lead to ever-increasing military manpower calls at home.

While disclaiming any idea that he was "defeatist," Senator Taft said Western Europe should be required to do much more on its own hook "before we attempt to establish a military position with an integrated army." —United Press.

Chinese Reds Have Only Small Craft

Washington, Feb. 8.

Admiral Arthur Radford, Pacific Fleet Commander, said today that neither the Chinese Nationalists nor the Communists have heavy naval ships necessary to make a major amphibious attack.

He told reporters at a Pentagon briefing that the Chinese Communists have only small craft. The United States has given the Chinese Nationalists a few warships, including destroyers, but it is not known how many of them they still retain. —United Press.

TRUMAN ENDORSES APPEAL

Washington, Feb. 8.

President Truman today endorsed the appeal of the former Republican President, Mr. Herbert Hoover, for Congressional approval of a large American grant of food to avert starvation in India.

President Truman was asked at his Press conference today to comment on the meeting held at the White House yesterday at which he and Mr. Hoover and other Administration officials discussed means of complying with India's request for two million tons of food grains.

President Truman said that Mr. Hoover had made the necessary announcement after that meeting yesterday and indicated that Mr. Hoover's announcement had his approval.

Mr. Hoover issued a statement after yesterday's conference reminding the American people that they had never in their history failed to relieve famine in any part of the world.

He said that it was not a matter of politics but one of Christianity. —Reuter.

Jap. War Criminals

Tokyo, Feb. 8.

Eighteen Japanese war criminals who completed their sentences and seven who were acquitted in war crimes trials will return from Australia and Burma soon, according to the Kyodo news agency today.

Among those who were acquitted by an Australian War Crimes Court is former General Masataka Yamawaki. —Reuter.

FIVE
SHOWS
TO-DAY

KING'S

FIVE
SHOWS
TO-DAY

AT 12 NOON, 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 AND 9.30 P.M.

UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS
MAUREEN O'HARA PAUL CHRISTIAN VINCENT PRICE
BAGDAD
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
with JOHN SUTTON • JEFF COREY
Screenplay by ROBERT LARDY ANDREWS Directed by CHARLES LAMONT Produced by ROBERT ARTHUR

ALSO WALT DISNEY COLOR CARTOON

"ALL IN A NUTSHELL"

And Latest Universal-International Newsreel

CENSURE MOTION DEFEATED

Labour Government Wins Second Successive Vote In Commons

CANADIAN GRAIN FOR INDIA

Vancouver, Feb. 8.

A \$2,000,000 flax seed order and 315,000 tons of prairie grain will move through Vancouver to the Far East this month.

The flax was ordered by Japan, now cut off from regular seed oil supplies in China. The Japanese need it for paint production and other industrial uses. Heavy Japanese purchases of flax on the Canadian market in recent weeks had shot up the price to \$5.50 per bushel, Vancouver Board of Trade officials reported.

The Canadian grain was due for India, where at least 1,000,000 persons were reported facing famine in the next few weeks.

Some 25 ships, including new Japanese freighters, will carry the cargoes across the Pacific. A Vancouver shipping official said: "It will take more long-shoremen than we have at present to handle the movement of grain, flax and heavy lumber exports."

A shortage of vessels also was reported due to huge shipments. Ships of every flag were expected to tie up at Vancouver this month to load Canadian exports.

A Government official said the Canadian Wheat Board and an Indian supply mission were working out arrangements for the purchase of grade "five" and "six" grain for wheat-starved India.—United Press.

Rowdy Debate Over Britain's Meat Supplies

London, Feb. 8.

The Labour Government tonight defeated by eight votes an Opposition censure motion in the House of Commons for alleged mismanagement of meat supplies.

With the voting at 306 to 298, the Government held its majority for the second night in succession.

All seven Liberals present voted with the Conservatives against the Government.

The other two Liberals were understood to have cancelled out their votes by agreeing to "pair" with Labour members.

Protesting against the meat ration, the Opposition accused the Government of "muddle" in allowing the British meat ration to fall to its lowest-ever level of eight pennyworth of fresh meat per head per week.

This would provide about four ounces of steak. The Minister of Food, Mr Maurice Webb, replying, said that their only fault, if it were a fault, was, they believed, that this "great and proud country" should be prepared to stand up to her chief supplier, Argentina.

He said that in refusing to pay high prices to Argentina the Government was fighting the battle of the housewives.

As Mr Webb spoke, about 100 women demonstrated outside

Parliament buildings, grabbing members to voice the nation's biggest grumble.

BULK PURCHASE DEFENDED

The House developed one of its rowdiest moods as Mr Hugh Gaitskell, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, closed the debate for the Government.

Mr Gaitskell said that Britain was quite ready for more negotiations with the Argentine and was, in fact, already in touch with the Argentine Government.

Mr Gaitskell defended the Government's system of bulk purchase. He said that under the agreements with Australia and New Zealand, Britain was getting meat for £70 to £80 sterling per ton "because they think it worthwhile."

But the Dominions were, in fact, selling small parcels of meat to the United States at "something like £300 sterling a ton."

Without these long-term bulk purchase arrangements, Mr Gaitskell said, there would be a free market and supplies would go to the highest bidder.—Reuter.

United Press adds that the new victory strengthened the belief that the Prime Minister's six-year-old regime will be able to retain power until it is ready to call a new election.



Miss Soraya Esfandiari Bakhtiari, 19-year-old daughter of a Persian nobleman, whose wedding to the Shah of Persia is to take place on Feb. 18. The ceremony had been postponed from December on account of the bride's illness. Dior, the Parisian designer, has made the wedding dress in silk lame, and 8,000 diamonds will be embroidered onto it.—Central Press.

Joint Resolution For Solution Of Kashmir Dispute

Lake Success, Feb. 8.

High diplomatic quarters said today that Britain and the United States — with the possible co-sponsorship of other States — would present next week a joint resolution to the United Nations Security Council, aimed at solving the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan.

Both delegations maintained secrecy over the contents of the proposed resolution, but informants said that the resolution would offer proposals for the demilitarisation of the Jammu and Kashmir areas as a prerequisite for a plebiscite.

It was known that so far neither the Pakistani Foreign Minister, Sir Mohamed Zafrullah Khan, nor the chief Indian delegate, Sir Benegal Rau, had yet seen the proposal, which is still in the drafting stage. They will be shown the resolution as soon as it has reached the final stage.

The Anglo-American consultations initiated last September reached a climax in recent days and it was expected that the current Council President, M. Jean Chauvel of France, would be requested tonight or tomorrow to call the Council into session for the latter part of next week. It was the work of the two delegations that delayed the session, which originally had been expected on Friday.

A despatch from London today said Britain was still considering the idea of pressing for a partial plebiscite in the disputed Jammu-Kashmir area, but all sources here said there were increasing indications that Britain's final decision would be against such a proposal. A suggestion for such a solution was contained in the report of the United Nations mediator, Sir Owen Dixon, and had been discussed during the recent

Commonwealth conference in London.

ANGLO-U.S. AIM

The Anglo-American endeavour is to propose a solution that would be acceptable to both parties, rather than try to force a solution on an unwilling Pakistani Government.

The question of a partial plebiscite is likely, however, to come up during the discussions because it is contained in the Dixon Report, which the Council must debate.

Sir Zafrullah Khan would like to see the British and American resolution charge India with refusal of all proposals for demilitarisation, including those made last month at the Commonwealth conference, and to call upon India to agree to some solution that would make demilitarisation possible. Sir Zafrullah was reported to be satisfied that the United States and Britain were making a joint effort.

What the solution could be was not known, but reports here and from London indicated that the Council was determined not to cover old ground and would try to take up where the Commonwealth conference left off.—United Press.

Overland Journey To Gibraltar

London, Feb. 8.

Thirty people will leave here tomorrow on an overland journey to the Rock of Gibraltar, homeward bound after 10 years as "refugees" in Britain.

They are the last of the 12,000 Gibraltar evacuees brought to Britain in 1940 when the strategic fortress — gateway to the Mediterranean Sea — was threatened with invasion.

Only 9,000 people remained on the two square mile Rock.

Most of the refugees stayed in London until 1944, when the flying V-2 bomb menace drove them to shelter in Northern Ireland. But by the end of 1944 it was safe enough for them to return home, and almost all went back as soon as passages could be arranged.

While in Britain many of them worked as restaurant waiters, others got jobs in factories. The last party—17 men and 13 women and children—will be escorted to new homes by a Government welfare officer.

They had to wait until five years after the war because of Gibraltar's acute housing shortage.—Reuter.

Diplomats Need Not Give Assets

Washington, Feb. 8.

The United States on Thursday withdrew the requirement that Chinese Nationalist diplomats report the assets they have in this country.

The original order requiring the registration of non-Communist Chinese private holdings was issued on December 17, when Chinese Red assets in the United States were frozen.

A State Department spokesman told reporters that the State and Treasury departments "had decided after careful consideration" that the order "should not apply to holders of diplomatic and official passports of the Chinese Nationalist government."—United Press.

Transformation Of Tunisia

Tunis, Feb. 8.

An agreement aimed at the gradual transformation of the French protectorate of Tunisia into a self-governing state within the French Union was made effective here today.

The reforms introduced were described by a French spokesman as "marking an historical turning point in the relations between France and Tunisia" which has been a French protectorate since 1885.

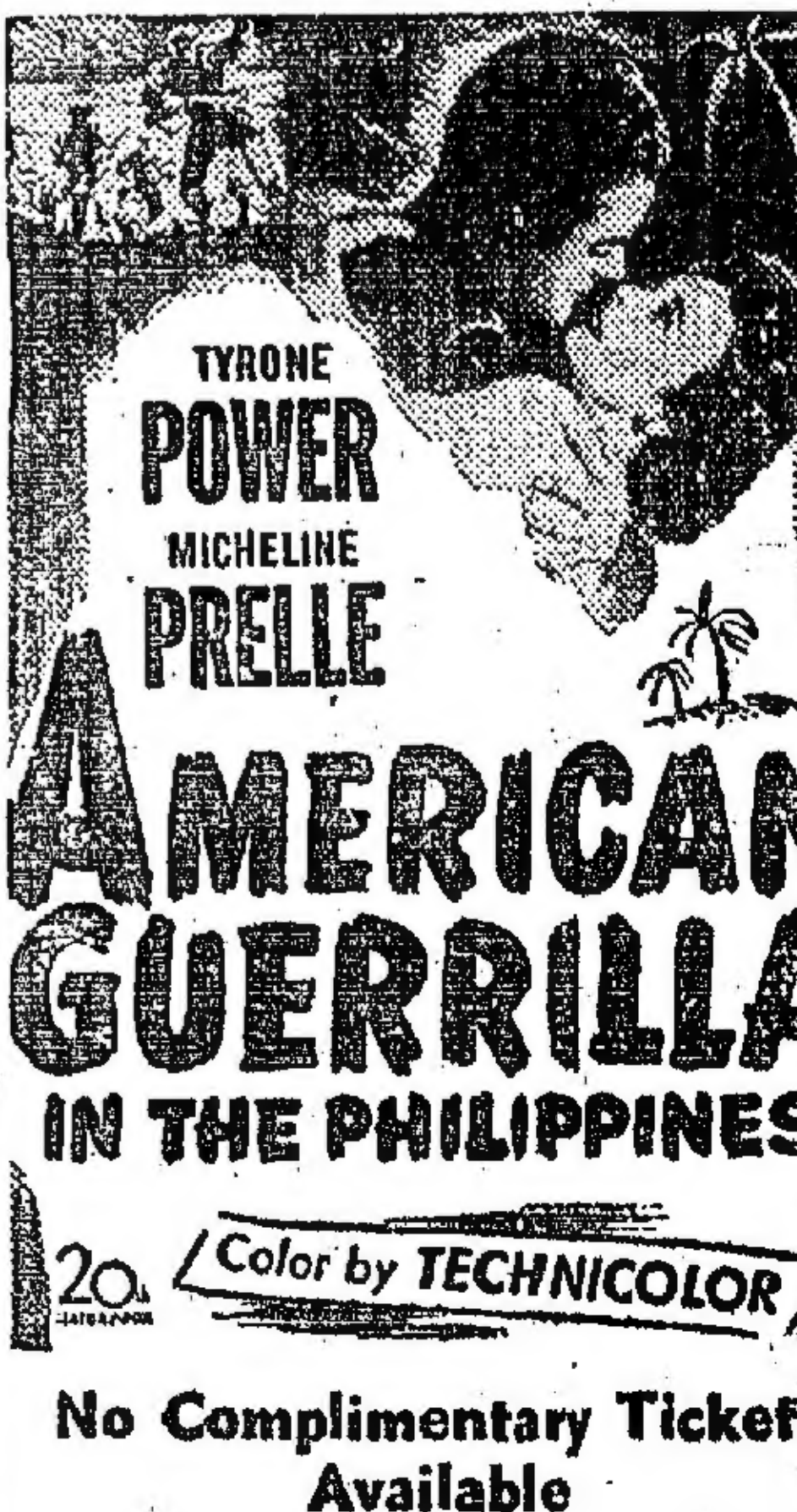
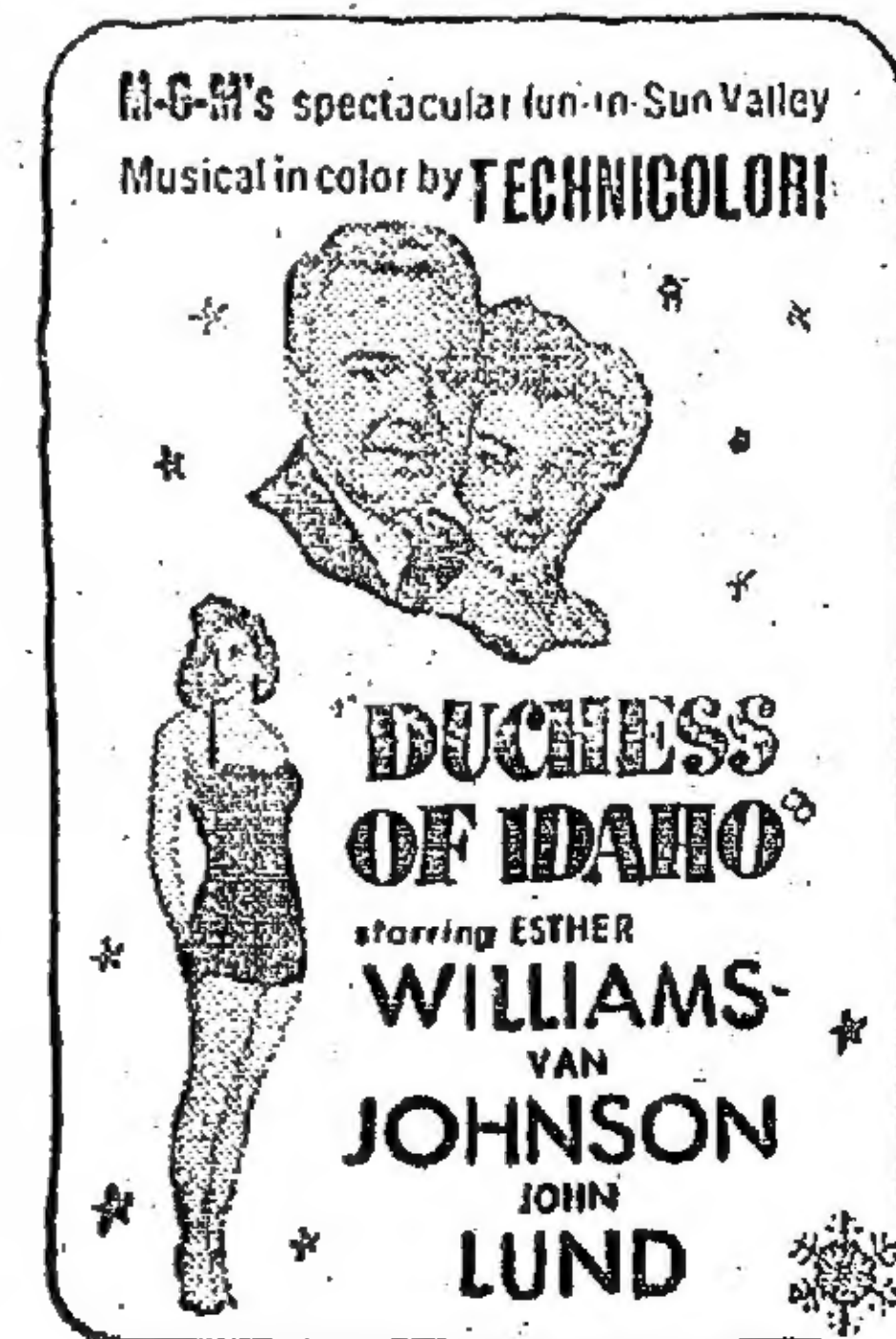
Essence of the agreement was reflected in decrees published by the Bey of Tunis today providing for greater independence of the Prime Minister of the Tunisian Government and throwing open doors of the civil service for the first time to Tunisians.—Reuter.



TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

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AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 &
9.30 P.M.



No Complimentary Tickets
Available



This jeep will have to be given a drink of water from ice chipped off a frozen waterfall in Korea. Private John Booth, left, of Taunton, Somerset, and Capt. Ted Miller, West Toronto, Canada, fill the jeep's needs as best they can.

Clementis Mystery Deepens

London, Feb. 8.

The mystery of the whereabouts of Dr Vladimir Clementis, the former Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, deepened tonight as Yugoslav officials kept silent on reports of his arrival in Belgrade.

Dr Clementis, dismissed from the Foreign Ministry and given a high post in the State Bank, has been "missing" from Prague a week ago.

High Austrian sources believed this morning that he had flown from Bratislava to Munich, where he asked for Allied permission to go to Yugoslavia.

This permission was granted and he arrived in Yugoslavia yesterday by way of Western Austria, these sources said, adding that Dr Clementis had applied to Marshal Tito for asylum.

However, the United States Intelligence authorities in Germany knew nothing of these reports and "were still in the dark" as to whether Dr Clementis had either arrived in or left West Germany in the past few days.

An American High Commission spokesman in Frankfurt said that as far as he knew, no application had been received from Dr Clementis, nor was any permit issued.—Reuter.

IN THE DARK

Frankfurt, Feb. 8.

United States Intelligence authorities in Germany said today that they were still "in the dark" about reports that the former Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, Dr Clementis, had either arrived in or left West Germany in the past few days. They know nothing to confirm a report that M. Clementis had flown to Munich from Bratislava, to obtain permission from the Allied authorities to go on to Yugoslavia, where the latest reports put the missing former Minister.

An American High Commission spokesman told Reuter that as far as he knew no application had been received from Dr Clementis nor was any permit issued.

Intelligence officers thought that the Czech Minister might have entered Germany without the knowledge of the authorities and had been smuggled through Austria to Yugoslavia, but they had nothing to confirm it.—Reuter.

HOLLYWOOD STARS LAMPOONED

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 8.

The Lampoon, the Harvard University's undergraduate humorous magazine, has declared actress Elizabeth Taylor "the most objectionable ingenue" in films last year.

It credited her with "the worst female performance of the year" for her performance in "The Conspirator."

Among the men Clifton Webb received a similar "award" for his performance in "Cheaper by the Dozen."

The Lampoon also dubbed Miss Taylor and Dean Stockwell "the most objectionable movie children of the year."

The year's happiest event—for them—was "Shirley Temple's announced retirement from the movies."

The editors said that they would make an annual "award" to the actor or actress who, in the previous year, had "shown these qualities of perseverance, leadership and personal integrity which have helped to make Hollywood what it is today."—Reuter.

Harmless Amounts Of Radio-Activity

Washington, Feb. 8.

The Bureau of Standards disclosed on Thursday that the snow which blanketed the capital area on Wednesday brought down with it slight and entirely harmless amounts of radio-activity, presumably from the last Las Vegas atomic explosion.

Dr F. U. Condon, director of the Bureau, said the radio-activity level was "one-thousandth to one-millionth" of the amount that would do any harm.—United Press.

NOTICE

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Royal Dutch Steam Packet Co. Wins Appeal Against Fine

Amsterdam, Feb. 8.

The Royal Dutch Steam Packet Company won its appeal today against an order to pay a 250,000 guilders' fine for every KPM ship that continued to carry Indonesian Government troops to the self-proclaimed South Moluccas Republic.

The President of the Amsterdam High Court ruled that the case was outside the jurisdiction of the Amsterdam District Court, which made the original order, and the order was therefore null and void.

He also declared himself incompetent to rule in the case, which had been brought by the South Moluccas Republic's Bureau in The Hague.

The President of the High Court, in passing judgment, said that the Indonesian Republic, whose troops were affected by the District Court ruling, was an internationally-recognised sovereign State which, according to international law, could not be subjected to Court rulings in another sovereign State except if the State concerned had voluntarily accepted such rulings.

"A Dutch judge, however unlawfully he may consider to be the acts of war and aggression of the Indonesian Republic against the South Moluccas Republic, and in spite of the fact that these acts may be contrary to the basic human rights and liberties, is not competent to pass judgment on such acts," he added.

The Amsterdam District Court made its ruling last November, six months after the South Moluccas had proclaimed their independence from Indonesia.

The President of the District Court imposed the following month a 250,000 guilders' fine on the shipping line because one of its ships had carried Indonesian troops to Amboina, the last stronghold of the South Moluccas Republic, "while fighting between Indonesian and South Moluccas troops was still going on."

The shipping company's Counsel at the time asserted that fighting had ended and that the troops were "occupa-

tion forces sent to relieve troops that had been in action."—Reuter.

Huge Red Casualties In Korea

Washington, Feb. 8.

A military spokesman today estimated Communist battle casualties in the Korean fighting at more than 525,000 through Jan. 25.

Officially reported United States casualties—not counting those whose next of kin had not yet been notified—totalled 47,388 through Feb. 2.

The Red casualty estimate comprised 134,000 Chinese dead and wounded, 254,000 North Korean dead and wounded, 136,548 North Korean prisoners of war, and 616 Chinese prisoners.

The spokesman did not give any estimate for non-combat casualties due to disease and frostbite. An Army spokesman last week said a typhus epidemic had caused several thousand deaths among Communist soldiers.—United Press.

Hollowed Wisdom Stuffed

Denver, Colorado, Feb. 8.

Milton Herslater, a 26-year-old student of the University of Colorado, was fined \$10 in a police court today for walking out of a Denver supermarket with a package of sausages and a pound of steak between the pages of an hollowed-out text book.—United Press.

Given Five Years For Lying

New York, Feb. 8.

William Remington was sentenced on Thursday to five years in prison and fined \$2,000 for lying under oath that he never was a Communist Party member.

It was the maximum sentence possible.

Remington still protested his innocence after the sentence was passed.—United Press.

AIR BASE NETWORK FORECAST

Washington, Feb. 8.

The United States may be planning to set up a chain of air bases in the Middle East, observers here said today.

The Secretary of the Air Force, Mr Thomas K. Finletter, left by plane yesterday on what was called a visit to Turkey for a first-hand view of the results of the American military aid programme there.

But observers said today that as he was not due in Ankara until next Tuesday, he would have time for several stops on the way. He has urged the expansion of the air base network in Europe and the Middle East.

There have also been recent Press reports from Britain and France that air bases would be made available to the United States under the North Atlantic defence pact.

The Secretary of State, Mr Dean Acheson, said yesterday that negotiations were under way for bases in North Africa and the Middle East.

Mr Acheson gave no locations or other details.

The United States already has authority to operate from three bases in this general area—the Navy at Port Lyautey, in French Morocco, and the Air Force at Tripoli, on the Mediterranean Coast, and at Dahran, in Saudi Arabia.

These agreements are carry-overs from World War II. American Navy and diplomatic officers are reported to be negotiating at Port Lyautey for a large-scale extension of the existing facilities there and at Casablanca.—Reuter.

PLANS FOR SECURITY OF PACIFIC

Will Have To Be On Multilateral Basis In Dulles' View

United States Will Not Shoulder The Full Responsibility

Tokyo, Feb. 8.

Mr John Foster Dulles was expected today to tell Australian, New Zealand and Philippine leaders next week that any security plans for the Pacific will have to be on a multilateral basis and America will not shoulder the entire responsibility for protecting them against aggression.

The United Press also learned from a reliable source that Mr Dulles would try to convince officials to take a realistic view point toward limited rearmament of Japan. Mr Dulles made it clear during conferences here with Japanese officials that the United States does not plan to be Japan's military "big brother" forever.

He indicated the United States is willing to keep a screening force of American troops here after the occupation ends but only until Japan is able to defend herself individually or collectively with other Pacific nations.

It is practically certain that if a peace treaty is signed under the present seven provisions outlined by the United States, Japan could build a military force for its own protection. Mr Dulles' statements indicated the United States feels this military force can be channeled safely into a multilateral arrangement with Japan—one-time nemesis against Communism.

Mr Dulles' efforts to sell this point of view to Australian, New Zealand and Philippine officials will be greatly aided by the actions of New Zealand's Prime Minister, Mr Sidney Holland in Washington the past few days. Mr Holland has said he—and representing his government—looked with favour upon limited Japanese rearmament and the conclusion of some sort of Pacific pact at the same time as the peace treaty is signed.

Mr Holland's opinion is expected here to carry weight in discussions in Manila, Canberra and Wellington.

Sources here indicated Mr Holland's sentiments would place greater emphasis on Pacific Pact discussions and possibly result in some concrete suggestions by Mr Dulles when he returns to Washington.

MAY OFFER BASES

Proposals for the stationing of American troops in Allied countries are unlikely at this time but there is a possibility they may offer bases for American planes and ships. Manus Island off the north coast of New Guinea has been one unofficial suggestion.

Agreements along this line would have to be made in conjunction with the military leaders in Washington but the idea fits in with the theory of a "screening force" of American might around the periphery of

Communism. Such a screening force would not be able to contain full-scale aggression everywhere but would make an intentional aggressor pause before becoming involved with the United States and her retributive force.

In addition to the rearmament question, Philippine President Elpidio Quirino is expected to bring up the following points with Mr Dulles on Monday:

1. Philippine reparations claims against Japan amounting to 8,000,000,000 pesos (\$4,000,000,000). A reliable source said Mr Dulles is expected to tell the Philippines bluntly to forget about reparations payment from current Japanese production. This would be "unrealistic" and would do more harm to Japan trying to get on her feet than it would do good for the Philippines. It is not known how strongly the United States will defend this particular provision of its seven-point memorandum, but if she refused to change and Philippine officials refuse to forget reparations the Philippines could not conclude a treaty at the same time as the United States.

2. Economic rehabilitation and development of Japan would have to come under separate agreements negotiated either at the same time as the peace treaty or later with the countries involved.

3. Fishing rights for Japan after the treaty undoubtedly would be the same for her as other countries. She would have equal rights on the high seas and could have negotiated fishing treaties with other interested countries.

An additional point—emigration by Japanese to the South Pacific—may be brought up by Australia, but here again the matter would have to be negotiated with interested countries after a treaty is concluded.—United Press.

SENATE MEETING

Manila, Feb. 8.

President Quirino on Thursday called for a meeting on



BARBED WIRE WREATH FOR STALIN—Ernst Tillich, right, opens a parcel in Berlin to show a post office employee the barbed wire wreath sent to Josef Stalin on his 71st birthday by the anti-Red West Berlin "Fighting Group For Humanity." It was designed to remind the Communist leader of the thousands of Germans still being held in Russian concentration camps.

Friday of members of the Senate and House Foreign Affairs committees to discuss the Philippines stand on the projected peace for Japan.

The meeting was called in preparation for a conference between President Quirino and the United States' special envoy, Mr John Foster Dulles, who is scheduled to arrive late on Sunday from Tokyo.

It was believed the conference between the President and the Senate and House committees, which will be held at 10 a.m. in Malacanang Palace, will also discuss other questions involving Japan, notably the Philippines' claim for reparations totalling 8,000,000,000 pesos.

A United Press report from Tokyo that Mr Dulles was expected to tell the Philippines to forget its reparations claims against Japan was greeted with "no comment" by the Malacanang and the Foreign Office.

Government spokesmen said they preferred not to make any comment until after Mr Dulles's conferences here.

A Malacanang spokesman indicated Mr Dulles would be given an opportunity to confer with Senate President M. Jesus Cuenco and Speaker Eugenio Perez and other leaders of Congress.

Mr Dulles will confer with Mr Quirino on Monday.—United Press.

American Prisoners Freed By N. Koreans: 17 Days Captivity

On the central front in Korea, Feb. 8.

Four more American prisoners freed by the North Koreans returned safely today to the Allied lines after 17 days of captivity.

They were all survivors of an American infantry patrol that was ambushed and partially wiped out on January 27.

All were companions of Private First Class Stephen Z. Zazycki, of Schenectady, New York, who walked in with a similarly captured South Korean soldier two days after the North Koreans turned them loose.

The four who returned today were Master Sergeant Woodrow P. Haines, of Baltimore, Maryland; Private First Class Joseph T. Pauline, of Philadelphia; Private Philip E. Geiger, of Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania; and Private Robert Collins, of Marshall Town, Iowa.

These four, Zazycki and the South Korean, were among the 14 survivors of the patrol. Zazycki said on his return that the North Koreans told him that all would be freed eventually.

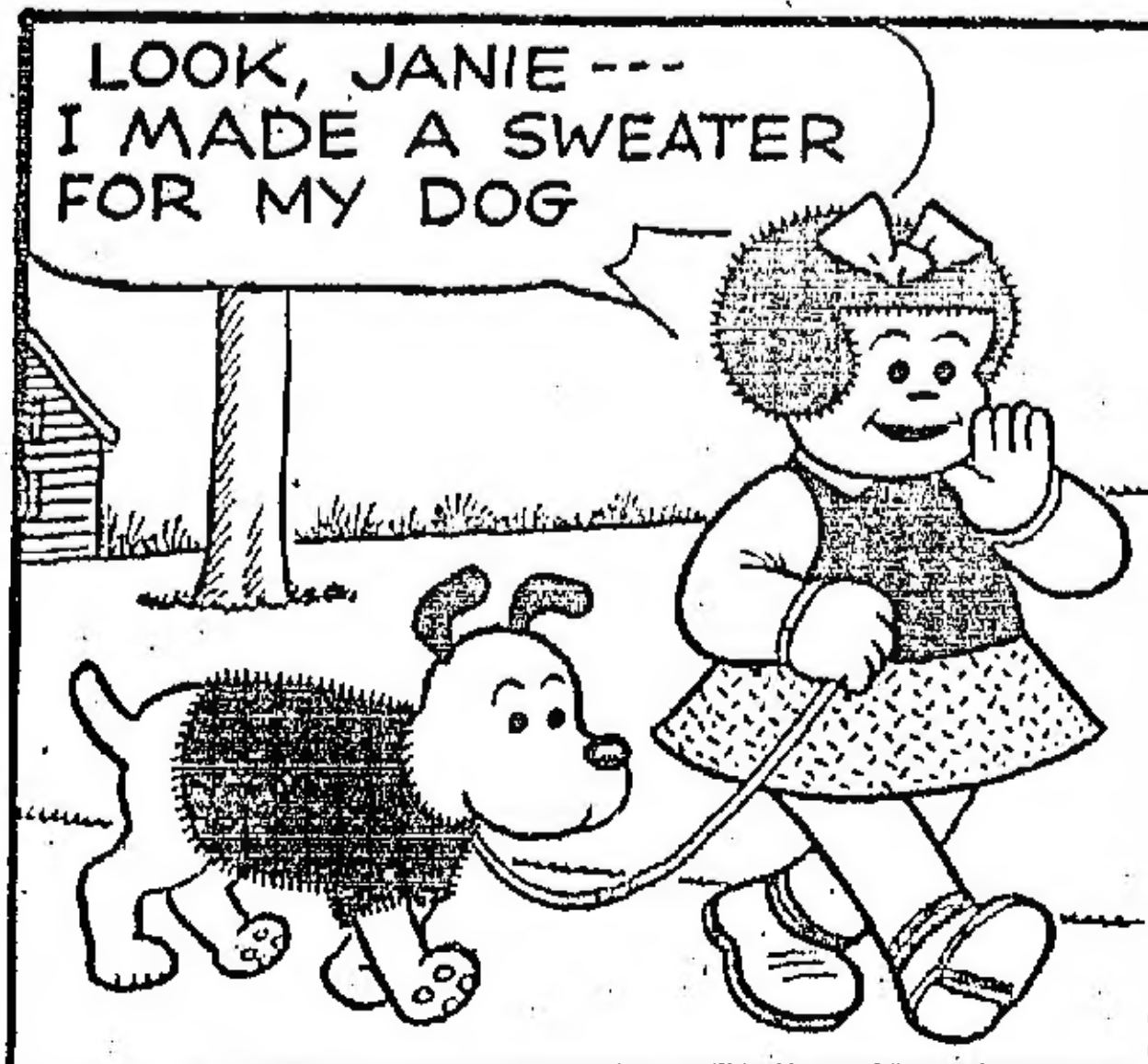
The four who returned today said that they were first marched to a North Korean Divisional Headquarters, where they were questioned by what appeared to be a divisional commander.

Then the North Koreans told them that they would be taken back to the American lines and set free. The North Koreans kept their promise and the small party made friendly contact today with troops that were looking for them.

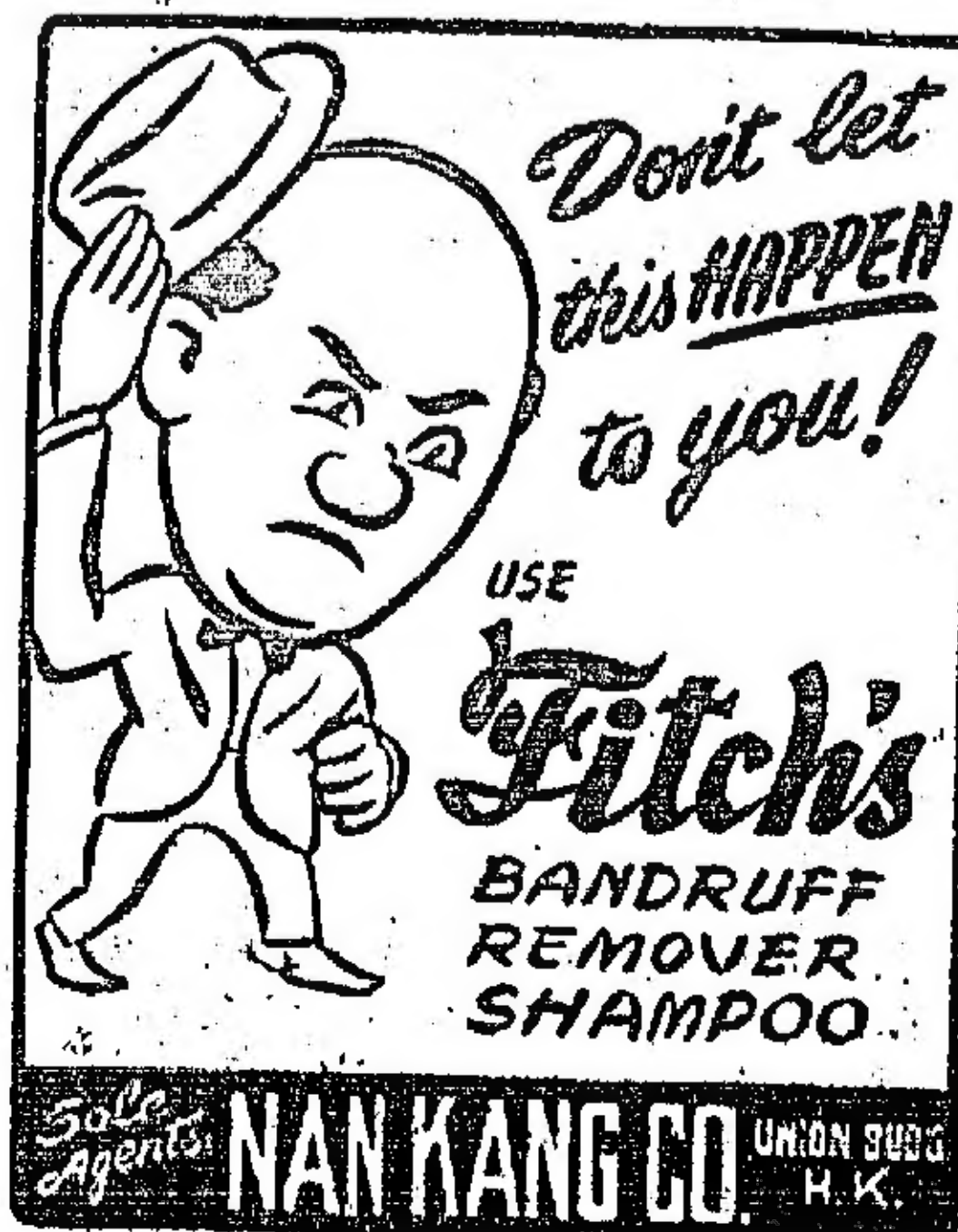
None of the five Americans complained of any severe treatment while they were prisoners of the North Koreans. They were given emergency treatment for frost-bitten feet, questioned and then sent to the rear for medical treatment.—Reuter.

NANCY

Burr-r-r!



By Ernie Bushmiller



EXIT FINALLY ALL BUT THE CUP GIANTS?

By ARCHIE QUICK

It had to happen. The inexorable scythe of class has cut down Third Division representation in the FA Cup competition so that only five went "into the hat" for the Fifth Round draw, and two of those had to face replays.

It can be assumed, pretty safely I think, that the Cup winners will again come from the First Division as they have done on the last 13 occasions. Who then are the big fellows left in? There are 11. Arsenal, Blackpool, Manchester United, Newcastle, Huddersfield, Sunderland, Wolves, Fulham, Stoke, Chelsea and Sheffield United.

Without hesitation I pick Manchester United, Wolves or Blackpool as the most likely winners, at the same time keeping an eye on the amazing Arsenal. Tradition is against them for the Cup has not been won in successive seasons since Blackburn Rovers accomplished the feat in 1891. But who can set standards on Arsenal? Then you must remember that Huddersfield have had two fine victories over Spurs and at Preston.

Big surprise of Round Four was Birmingham City's convincing win at Derby, followed by Mansfield's draw on Sheffield United's ground. Yet perhaps the most remarkable thing is that Bristol have both Rovers and City in the last sixteen—an unprecedented state of affairs. I have often been told of Rovers' good football. This proves it. A win at Luton where Portsmouth failed was no mean performance.

MISTAKE OF THE SEASON

Watching Wolves beat Villa 3-1, I saw the worst refereeing mistake of the season—and that by a man who has "lined" a Wembley Cup Final. Swinbourne, the Wolves centre-forward, was lying a good five yards offside and a linesman was flagging furiously as a through pass was driven down the middle to the ex-Army man.

But the referee adjudged that Swinbourne was put on side by the ball touching defender Martin's head in transit. That

does not alter the fact that Swinbourne was offside when the ball was last played. This law of the game needs drastic reconstruction.

Swinbourne scored, of course, and that made it 2-0. The game was virtually over for Villa then. To make matters worse for them England goalkeeper, Bert Williams, pulled out one of his acrobatic acts to save a Martin penalty. He fell, Martin followed up for the rebound and was hustled off the ball. Another penalty, I think.

But the gods having frowned rarely relent in "no second chance" Cup tie football. So historic Cup fighters went out. There are, however, still seven past winners left in, so clashes between giants became inevitable in the Fifth Round.

After being drawn at home seven times in succession—four times against Third Division opponents—Arsenal have at last been set a poser by having to visit Old Trafford in the Fifth Round. The clash there with Manchester United is one of five probable all-First Division struggles. The Third Division sides have avoided each other, so all may go out. Second or Third Division, however, will be represented in the last eight by either Hull or Bristol Rovers.

Fastest Bowler Ever Is 80

The 80th birthday of one of the fastest bowlers ever to play to first-class cricket—C. J. Kortright, the old Essex player—was celebrated a few days ago with a dinner given by members of Thorndon Park Golf Club.

In his heyday C. J. was an almost unplayable bowler; he took scores of wickets with his yorkers. He holds strong views on present-day bowling; it fails, he says, because bowlers concentrate on the craze for inswingers and all sorts of spins and swerves, and forget to keep a length and bowl at the stumps.

C. J. took up golf after he retired from cricket, and in the bar corner at Thorndon Park there is a seat permanently reserved for him. Here he holds court, reminiscing about the old days.

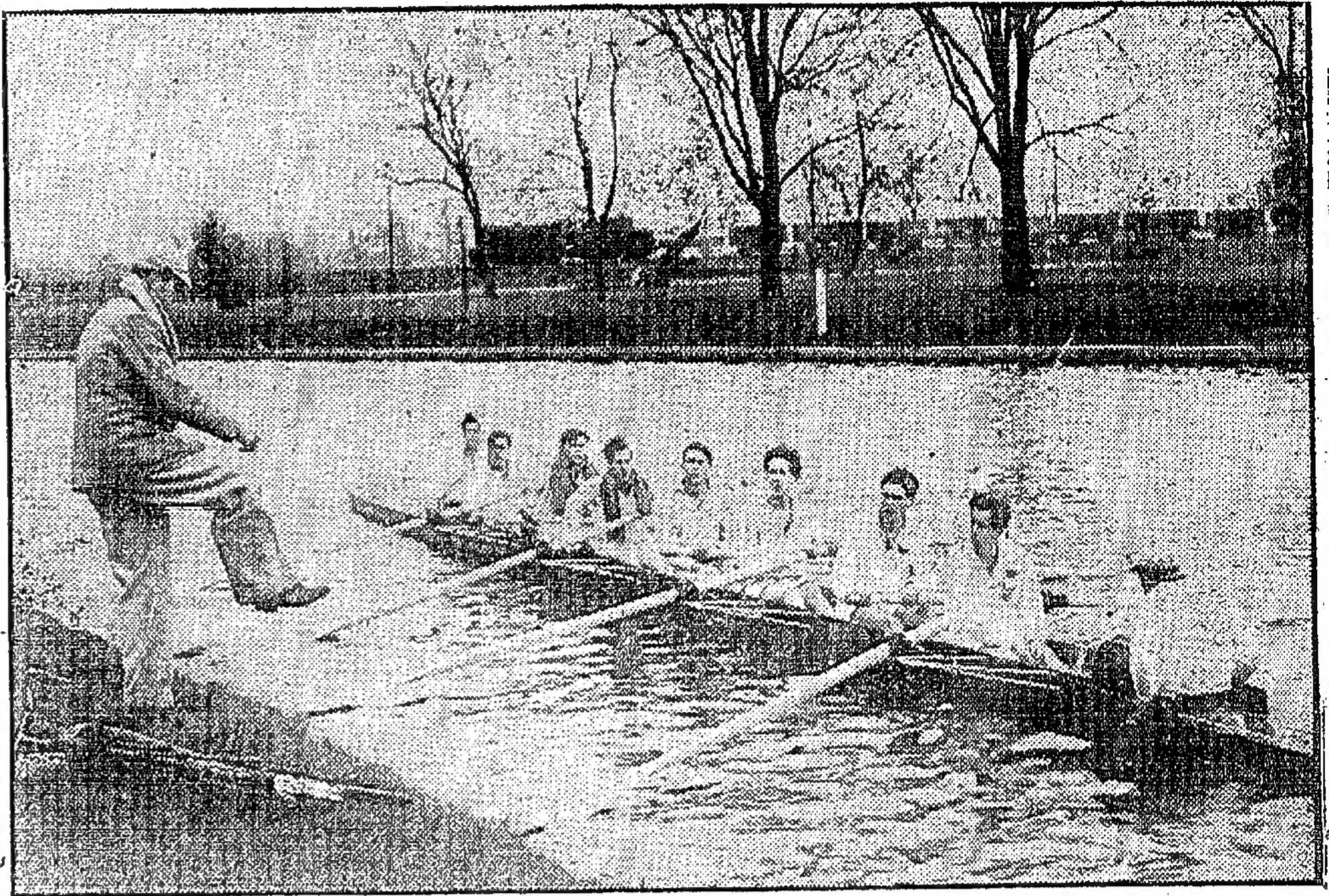
ALMOST MISSED

The story of Graeme Hole, 19-year-old batsman who made a century for South Australia against the MCC, is that of a promising cricketer who almost went unspotted though surrounded by experts. "Chappie" Dwyer, an Australian selector, is a prominent member of his club in Sydney but, despite this, Hole's promotion was slow, and his appearances for New South Wales few.

He was recommended to South Australia. Sir Donald Bradman saw him—and grabbed with both hands. He is a tall, upstanding and graceful batsman who resembles Archie Jackson, the pre-war champion who died in his twenties.

—(London Express Service)

CAMBRIDGE COACH SHOWS A LEG



Cambridge Rowing coach, and last year's member of the Light Blues eight, Mr W. T. Arthur makes his meaning clear with arm, leg, and voice as he trains the Cambridge crew for their race against Oxford University.

Order of rowing is: Almond; Macklin; Smith; Lloyd; Rowing Club President from N.S.W. Australia; Windham; Sharpley; Crowden; Jennens (stroke) and Underwood, cox. On the River Cam.

The Dominions Favour Double Rugby Caps

By HYLTON CLEAVER

In London now is the Honourable Mr Justice Herron, president, since 1943, of the New South Wales Rugby Union, and now first president of the new Australian Rugby Union, just formed. He takes up the first allocation of a seat to Australia on the International Board.

This first-class player and referee says he has come to Britain to learn, but conditions are so different in the Dominions that he hopes the International Board will grant each Dominion individual autonomy so that an odd rule or two can be adjusted to meet geographical and national requirements. He feels some laws of the Rugby Union are mainly designed to meet conditions in the British Isles.

This President of his RU has seen only four international matches in his own country. Teams from elsewhere go to Australia so rarely, and Australia thus become dependent on their own football.

Remember the vast distances they travel and that in Australia a man may only play for the Zone or district in which he resides.

Replacements are permitted in all games except those against touring teams.

Mr Justice Herron is sad about the decision that no man may play for two countries. The Australian RU handbook gives an honour list of those who have played for both New Zealand and Australia.

One of the first was Sir Henry Braddon. C. G. Wade (later Sir Charles) played for England and Australia; A. C. (John) Wallace for New South Wales and Scotland; M. Barlow for Ireland and New South Wales.

Mr Justice Herron thinks this is one of the best things that could happen in the Empire, and says it is particularly popular in Dominions where they cannot play internationals each season.

IN FAVOUR OF LEAGUES

As for the new Australian RU which he is here to represent, Mr

Justice Herron says that in its inception it was suspect, but it has become popular. The committee is being drawn from six states, one representative from each of four, two from Queensland, three from New South Wales.

Judge Herron is in favour of leagues, because in Australia they are essential.

There each league consists of 11 clubs, five playing the other five each week, the eleventh (in turn) plays against Combined Services.

When league positions have been settled on a points basis, the four top teams play off in semi-finals and a final, on a knock-out basis.

TRIBUTE TO PEARCE

What has impressed this ambassador here? As a referee he considers Tom Pearce the finest diplomat he has seen on the field.

In Australia there is tendency to play too strictly to the letter of the law. He likes our quick playing of the ball after a tackle, it avoids the "rucking" so general in his country. He is envious of our vast number of clubs.

In Australia there are really no clubs other than those representing towns.

They have nothing to compare

with Harlequins and Saracens, except in other than first-class football.

I asked him why he had been told that Australia would not agree to another visit by a British Isles touring team unless it went there before New Zealand.

He assured me no such thing was ever said.

All it amounted to was, he declares, that by the time this particular team reached Australia (in August) the cricket season was starting, their rugby men were tired and so were the spectators of rugby.

It would be more equitable if tours alternated the itinerary, going to New Zealand first one time and to Australia another.

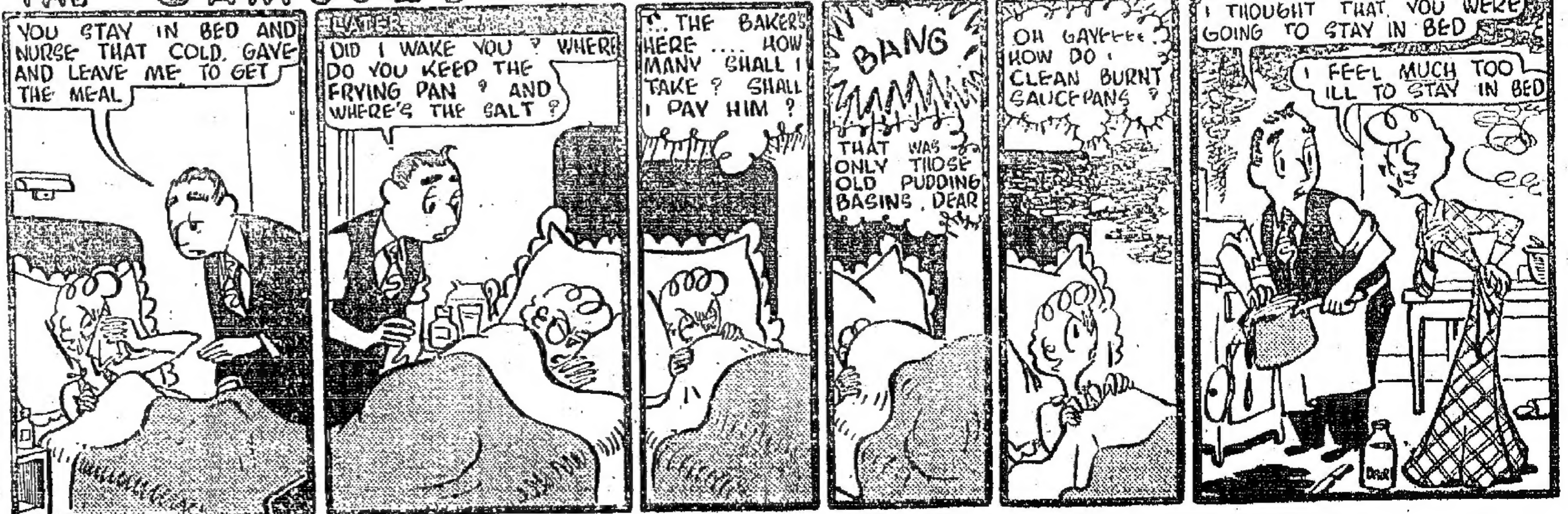
—(London Express Service)

COLONY CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

There are five entries to date for the Colony Chess Championship. They are S. Giritsky, the holder, G. R. Caswell, L. Schure, C. Bird and Eugen Taus.

Entries close at 5 p.m. today and may be telephoned in to Mr L. Schure (Tel. 35717), the Hon. Secretary Treasurer of the Colony Chess Championship Committee.

THE GAMBOLS



FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

RUBBER CONFERENCE

AIMING AT KEEPING

SUPPLIES FROM REDS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Feb. 8.

As the London rubber conference enters its fourth day trade circles here are becoming convinced that it has resolved into a concerted effort by Britain, America and France to win the "independent" rubber-producing countries over to a unified policy aimed at preventing rubber supplies reaching Communist countries.

Despite official disclaimers that the present conference has anything to do with the commodity groups envisaged in the recent OEEC announcement—disclaimers which by the way have failed to impress well-informed observers—it is believed the present meeting is a preliminary political skirmish to pave the way for an international scheme designed to funnel all available rubber supplies into the Western powers' defence industries.

The strength of the American team at the conference seems to confirm the view that the United States is the moving spirit behind the present series of talks.

American policy has three main objectives: to obtain supplies of natural rubber for her strategic stockpiling, to stabilise the price of the commodity at a considerably lower level than that now quoted in the world markets, and to eliminate competitive buying between Communist and non-Communist countries.

Having failed to achieve these purposes by bulk-purchasing America is now trying to get agreement on an international allocation scheme and the purpose of the London conference is believed therefore to be to offer long-term contracts to "neutral" rubber-producing countries whose co-operation is vital if the proposed scheme is to be effective.

If America succeeds in this purpose the next step would be to convene a meeting of representatives of rubber producers and consumers to discuss the technical aspects of international allocation. The producers would demand a high price for their co-operation if it entailed closing down the free markets but this demand might be met by an American assurance that the price would not be allowed to fall below a guaranteed minimum level in the event of easing of world political tension and consequent slackening of demand for rubber.

The consuming countries on the other hand would be mainly concerned to ensure that America was not allowed to draw supplies away from their own industries. A clue to a possible solution of this problem is contained in the official statement on the conference which says that the participant nations will "review the supply and demand position for natural and synthetic rubber... and consider what action, if any, is necessary or desirable to secure equitable distribution of supplies which are expected to be available."

SIGNIFICANT SIGN

Inclusion of synthetic rubber in this context is significant. When the American Government-owned plants are producing to capacity they will be turning out 90 percent of the total non-Communist world production of synthetic rubber. Canada, another participant in the London conference, is the only other Western country which produces the synthetic product.

If, therefore, the amount of natural rubber which would go to America under any international allocation scheme meant that other consuming countries would go short of supplies, they might be offered American synthetic rubber to fill the gap.

This, however, is to presume the success of the present London conference of "civil servants and diplomats." Most

difficult obstacle preventing agreement on any form of international control over rubber supplies is the problem of obtaining the co-operation of countries like Indonesia and Ceylon which are anxious to stay neutral in the East-West tug of war. There will be much hard bargaining before this obstacle is surmounted—if it ever is.

The new record price quoted for spot rubber today in London is an indication that trade circles are now firmly convinced that the international allocation scheme is on the stocks.

Today's closing price was 69d buyers—71d, sellers.

One sale was made in Liverpool at 70 pence.

Chicago Grain Market

Chicago, Feb. 8.

Prices of grain futures closed here today as follows:

Wheat—price per bushel.	
Spot	2.55 1/4
March	2.57 3/4-1/2
May	2.57 3/4-1/2
July	2.52 1/4
September	2.53 1/4-1/2
Corn	
Spot	1.60 1/2
March	1.62 1/2
May	1.65-1.65 1/2
July	1.65 1/2
September	1.64 1/2
Rye	
Spot	1.82 1/2-3/4
March	1.85
Oats	
Spot	1.00 1/2-3/4
March	1.00 1/2-1/4
New York flour—per 200 lb. sack.	\$13.60—United Press.

LONDON TIN MARKET

London, Feb. 8.

Tin prices were marked up some 25 sterling at today's morning session, but the market was quiet. There were no business in spot.

Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:

Spot tin, buyer	1,450
Spot tin, seller	1,455
Three-months tin, buyer	1,415
Three-months tin, seller	1,420
Business done at	1,420
Settlement	1,450

—United Press.

N.Y. Cotton Exchange

New York, Feb. 8.

The New York Cotton Exchange will be closed again this week. This means the Exchange will not reopen at least until Tuesday, as Monday is an official holiday, Lincoln's birthday.—United Press.

Ken Smith's Shownews

SO YOU WANT TO BE A FILM STAR?

So you want to be a film star? You dream of earning thousands of pounds, or maybe dollars, and living a life of toying and ease away from the harsh rigours of office hours or timekeeping clocks?

Oh, you do! Well, listen to Greta Gynt, British actress just back from Hollywood where she has made "Soldiers Three" (in 25 days shooting time) with Stewart Granger, David Niven and Walter Pidgeon:

"You have to be on the set on time—and they mean on time: To be two minutes late for a 6 a.m. call means a summons to the Front Office (nicknamed the 'Iron Lung') where the executives sit."

"If you haven't a first-class excuse for those lost two minutes, you get a severe reprimand and a warning 'Don't let it occur again.'"

Incidentally, Greta told me that 6 a.m. is not the earliest time for starting. Ava Gardner and Kathryn Grayson, making Showboat on an adjoining set, were at the studio at 4.30 a.m. three days in succession. No long lie-in for the stars!

First film to have script, producer, director and stars approved by the NFFC—which, in effect, means the Government—is "Valley Of The Eagle." Location shooting will take place in Lapland in February or March. Nat Bronsten is the producer, Terence Young the director and John McCallum and George Coulouris the stars.

Other producers who have won the Corporation's approval, include Asquith, Betty Box, Darnborough, Havelock-Allen, Huth, Neame and Soskin—strictly in alphabetical order.

ARE YOU feeling weather-beaten? It's been a real pleasure to the Elstree scene builders. They've just completed a castle, for use in Ivanhoe (Stewart Granger and possibly Jean Simmons). And it has been left in the open air to acquire that weather-beaten look without which no self-respecting castle feels complete.

PLUCKY FRANCES DAY must have wished she had a reserve voice last week when she opened in cabaret at the Cafe de Paris. After the first night a mysterious throat complaint attacked her. Rather than let down management and public she bravely carried on, though in great pain.

BILLY WILDER, who brought Gloria Swanson back from retirement to play the ageing film-star of "Sunset Boulevard," has tempted Maurice Chevalier back to Hollywood, after 20 years.

Here's hoping there's a Swanson success for you, Maurice.

A BIG HAND

GIVE A BIG HAND to Albert Lieven, who is back at work this week after one job in five years. He's been on a five-year contract with Rank, and has drawn his salary all the time, though he's made only one film, "Sleeping Car To Trieste."

Now he's happy again. He's filming in "Hotel Sahara" at Pinewood.

TALKING ABOUT shortage of work, what price Anton Walbrook? Right now he's sitting in Paris, having just completed the film "La Ronde," waiting for offers.

Anton has not made a film in Britain for two years, though his performances on stage and screen for many years have earned him high praise from critics and customers.

BEST STORY of the week came from a meeting between a newspaperman and the managing director of a film company.

Man-Di: Is your paper interested in serialising our latest film?

Newsman: I don't think so. We serialised the original story several years ago.

Man-Di: Say, what the heck does that matter? This is a film. It bears no resemblance to the original story!

FIRST EFFECT of the Government's new grasp on the film industry, through the National Film Finance Corporation is that some 60 people will have a working holiday in—where do you think?—Lapland!

N.Y. Sugar Market

New York, Feb. 8.

World sugar futures closed here today 1 lower to 1 higher, with sales totalling 51 contracts.

Domestic sugar futures closed today 2 to 3 lower, with sales totalling 175 contracts.

Prices closed today follows:—Contract No. 4 (world)

March	4.87 bid
May	4.90 traded
July	4.90 bid
September	4.90 bid
Spot	4.90

Domestic No. 5	
March	5.46 bid
May	5.46 traded
July	5.50 traded
September	5.56 bid
Spot	5.50

—United Press.

Singapore Rubber Market

Singapore, Feb. 8.

Prices of rubber futures closed here today as follows:

Number 1 rubber, per lb.	
February	239-241
March	239-241
April	224-226
May	225-227
June	215-217
July	203-205
August	240-242
September	168-169
Black crepe	249-251
No. 1 pale crepe	249-251

—United Press.

New York Rubber Market

New York, Feb. 8.

Rubber futures closed today 25 to 75 points lower, with sales totalling 12 contracts. The market eased after a sharply higher opening, conforming generally with the trend at London.

Prices closed today as follows:

Spot	74
March	74.00 traded
May	69.50 traded
July	64.00 bid

—United Press.

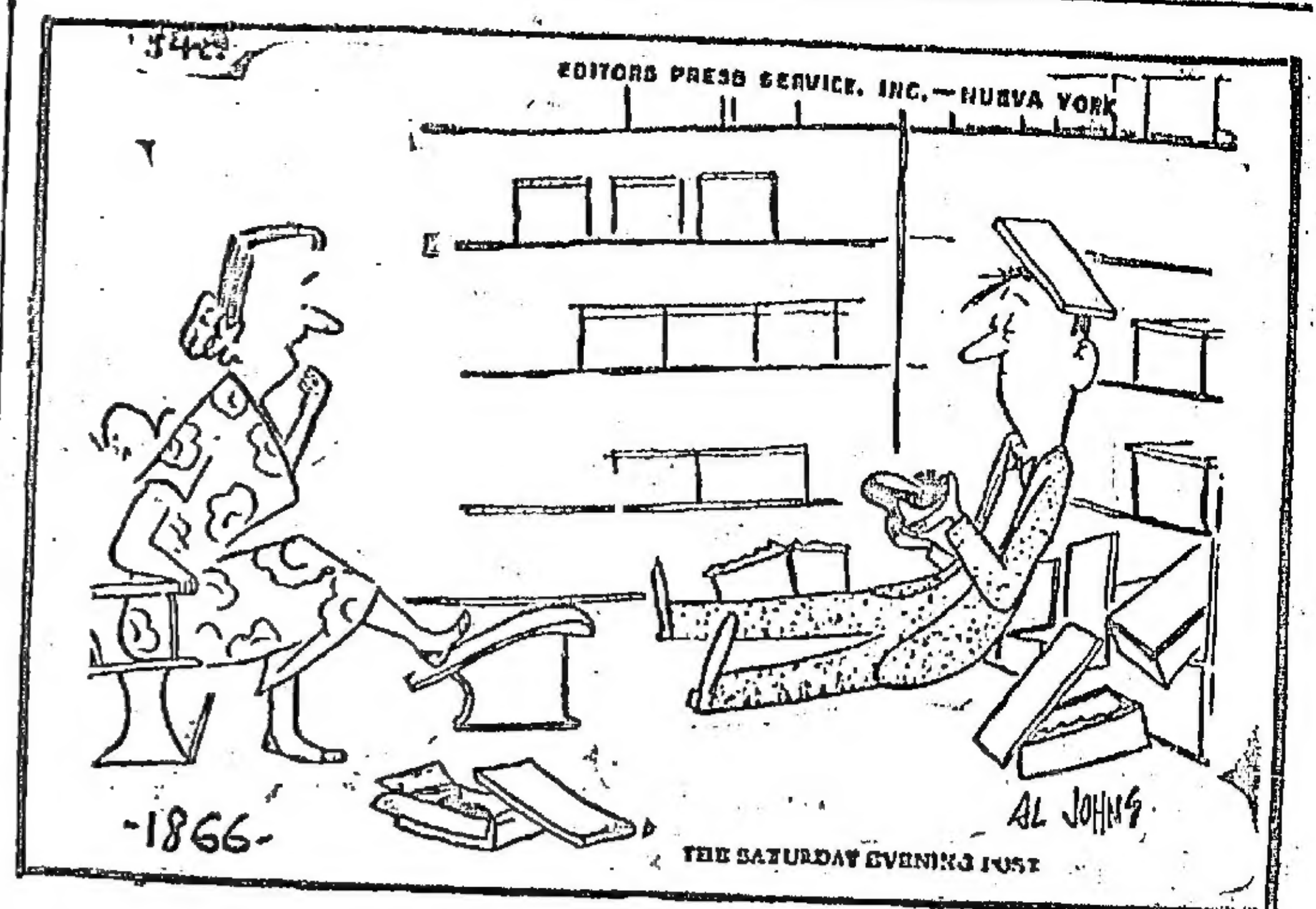
London Rubber Market

London, Feb. 8.

Prices of rubber futures closed here today as follows:—Number 1 rubber, in cents

Per lb.	69-71
March	68-69 1/2
April/June	62 1/2-3/4
October/December	54-54 1/2

—United Press.



"You said to push . . ."

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: West

East-West game

N.

10 9 7 3 2

6 5 4 3

10 8 7 4

5 3 2

W.

10 8 5 3

6 5 4 3

10 9 7 4

5 3 2

10 8 7 4

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London Express Service.

COMMUNIST SABOTAGE PLOT

Alleged Attempts To Damage Equipment In British Ships

Union Reveals Text Of Mysterious "Book Ten"

London, Feb. 8.

Official Seamen's Union leaders here tonight produced a document which they claimed was proof of Communist attempts to sabotage British shipping.

The British Seamen's Union, co-operating with the Transport and General Workers' Union, released the text of a document said to have been found aboard a British ship in Naples.

The text, as issued, gave instructions to Communist agents on how to cause confusion and unrest and how to damage ships' equipment and machinery.

Mr Arthur Deakin, Secretary of the Transport Workers' Union, said that the document "clearly originates from the World Federation of Trades Unions, whose policy is, that of the Cominform. Most Western unions have left the Federation. Mr Deakin was speaking at a London Press conference. He said that the document shows that "there is nothing too dirty, nothing too despicable, for the Communist Party. Nobody who knows them will doubt the authenticity of this document."

The text referred to a mysterious "Book Ten" in connection with instructions for causing damage in ships' engine rooms.

Mr Deakin said that he had heard before about this book. The document listed instructions to agents under eight heads as follows:

"IGNORANT MEN"

(1) "Agents must themselves suggest complaints and should not allow themselves to be chosen as workers' representatives."

(2) "Agents must make friends with young stewards, because these men are either ignorant or lack common intelligence. Agents, as a rule, might create disturbances by using these men only."

(3) "Agents should arrange for the usual ships' drunkards to visit local meeting places."

They should see that there is plenty of whisky at a reasonable price available because drunks can cause confusion.

(4) "Suggest to ships' seamen that their officers are trying to abuse their authority."

(5) "When ships' meetings are held, an agent should be present but must not offer complaints or comments."

DAMAGING ENGINES

(6) "Before meetings are held, agents should suggest to ships' stewards that various mechanical appliances are out of order and should be immediately repaired. Be sure beforehand that ice boxes, toasting machines, coffee pots, and others are damaged."

(7) "Equipment mislaid in the engine room can cause serious damage if properly executed. Agents must take precautions not to be in the engine room when damage occurs. Instructions in Book Ten are to be followed and no attempt to improvise should be made."

(8) "Agents are required to make one voyage only and should then report. Reports should include future voyages of the ship and those who may be sympathetic."

Mr Deakin refused permission to the London Communist party newspaper, the Daily Worker, to take a photostatic copy of the document. He said that the Daily Worker was "thoroughly irresponsible."—Reuter

PLEVEN ROUTS OPPONENTS

Paris, Feb. 8.

M. Rene Pleven, the French Prime Minister, today again outwitted his parliamentary adversaries when he obtained agreement of the National Assembly by a comfortable majority to "take into consideration" the Government's bill providing for an immediate increase of 20 per cent in the existing rate of family allowances.

This followed the Cabinet's provisional agreement on the text of a bill to reform the electoral system, reached yesterday and which also threatened to be a party bone of contention calculated to bring about the downfall of the French Government.

The attack on the Pleven Government from within the ranks of the Popular Republican Party, one of the mainstays of the coalition, thus seems to have petered out for the time being.

The Popular Republican had asked that family allowances be increased by 40 per cent.

The Finance Minister and the Cabinet as a whole were only willing to agree to 15 per cent.

The compromise which enabled M. Pleven to obtain a favourable vote today of 293 against 245 was a bill providing for a 20 per cent increase in February and March and the appointment of a commission representing Government and Parliament to study a reform of the family allowance system as a whole.—Reuter.



This is Denise Vane, international dancer who is appearing in the latest revue at the London Casino. She is also favourite pin-up girl of the Royal Navy—and one can understand why.

Atomic Artillery May Have Been Fired In Nevada

Washington, Feb. 8.

The Chairman of the Senate-House Atomic Committee, Senator Brien McMahon, said today that the Nevada atomic tests had "widespread implication" in military strategy, tactics and civil defence.

He said: "The Nevada operation has definitely enlarged our knowledge of atomic weapons—how they function and how they may be used for various purposes."

His statement gave emphasis to a report that the recent tests had substantially increased America's knowledge of making and firing atomic artillery shells and guided missiles.

This report came from a source close to the atomic development scheme, whose identity cannot be revealed.

It is still not known whether any atomic shells were exploded during the tests.

Senator McMahon referred to the blasts only as "experimental nuclear detonations." He said they compared with the 1948 test at Eniwetok Atoll in the Pacific "as a landmark in the American development of atomic energy for national defence."—Reuter.

RADIO-ACTIVE SNOW

Washington, Feb. 8.

Radio-active snow fell in Washington yesterday, the United States Bureau of Standards said today.

It said that it could have been caused by the recent atom tests near Las Vegas, Nevada.

The snow was harmless and contained only a minute fraction of radio-activity, it added.—Reuter.

to make a limited withdrawal. In the central, mountainous range, in an advance which is outflanking Seoul, United Nations' men have reached a point 24 miles from the 38th Parallel.—Reuter.

Three-Pronged UN Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

wiped out Communist forces in hills two miles northeast of Anyang this morning while the main road was cleared of mines for the tanks to push forward.

Chinese Communist units had been coming down from the hills each night to mine the road north of Anyang.

They plant mortar bombs and anti-tank mines but so crudely that reconnaissance parties had no difficulty picking them out ahead of the United Nations armoured advance.

The minefields met today were heavier but still they were quickly cleared to let the tanks through for the brief shelling of Seoul.—Reuter.

NEW TACTICS

Central Front, Feb. 8.

The outstanding success factor in the new United Nations offensive across the Korean peninsula is the change in Allied tactics from the rash, spectacular thrusts of the first successes.

Last September, when the Allies broke out of the Nakdong perimeter, they swept north in armoured columns, clearing roads and bypassing craggy peaks. It was the kind of war the Germans used in their panzer victory over Europe and their push into the heart of Soviet Russia. It was the kind of war which made Americans remember the name of General George Patton in the Allied victory over the Nazis. But it eventually brought grief in the Korean mountains. Korea's

maze of boulder-strewn mountain roads, inaccessible mountain passes, and rickety bridges built to ox cart specifications, were not panzerable.

The United Nations forces, bolstered by new commanders with a fresh outlook in many key spots, embarked upon a succession of manoeuvres without haste, and are now awaiting the successful completion of the first move. This is truly the infantry phase of the Korean war. The foot soldier is doing the work, and he is getting indispensable support from tanks and artillery.

But the early phases of the Korean war were the testing grounds of tank-led warfare. And it proved rather conclusively that the foot soldier could beat a tank every time in mountainous country where tanks lose manoeuvrability and become sitting ducks.

In the current Korean offensive the G.I. relies on his feet, for his only transportation is climbing "inaccessible" mountains and walking through valleys, woods and river beds. When the line moves forward, he and his officers are sure there are no Red threats to their flanks or their rear.

REDS FOILED

Meanwhile tanks and artillery, with concentrated fire power turned on every air and ground sighting of Reds in force, are breaking the Communist spirit before it has a chance. Artillery is helping to keep the United Nations front line casualties at an unbelievable minimum.

The new tactics have foiled Communist designs to suck the United Nations forces into traps. The Reds, during the current offensive have set up numerous traps for assaulting United Nations columns. But methodical cleaning of flanking ridges in every case has ruined these set-ups and sent the Reds reeling backwards in helpless disorganisation.

The G. I.s, after days of the sustained offensive which has obviously thrown the Red positions out of gear, now think without doubt they can lick the North Korean and Chinese foot soldier at his own mountain climbing game.—United Press.

HILL SECURED

Tokyo, Feb. 8.

American tanks in a move forward shelled the outskirts of Seoul—through which the Han runs—before returning to the main Allied battle positions four and a half or five miles south of the South Korean capital now held by the Communists.

Infantry advanced east and west of the Seoul highway and cleared Communist dug-outs and captured high ground.

South-east of Seoul, Greek, American and South Korean units operated on both banks of the Han River with entrenched Communists making determined resistance.

Some Allied troops are about ten and a half miles south-east of Seoul.

One patrol which crossed the river 12 miles north-east of Ichon secured an important hill but at another point nine miles north of Ichon Americans had

Railway Tragedy

Woddbridge, New Jersey, Feb. 8.

The Pennsylvania Railroad showed "complete disregard for human life" in issuing the operating instructions to the crew of the train which was wrecked on a temporary trestle killing 84 passengers, an official investigator charged on Thursday.

The investigator said the railroad failed to issue specific orders regarding the trestle. He also "deplored" the railroad's failure "to have caution signals at what was considered a safe distance from existing danger points."—United Press.

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